SP 106: Forensics Activity (3 units, 2 units, 1 unit)
Saddleback College, Fine Arts & Media Technology
Division
Department of Speech Communication Course Syllabus

Larry Radden
Phone: 949-582-4909
Email: lradden@saddleback.edu
Office: Fine Arts 115

Heidi Ochoa
Phone: 949-582-4404
Email: hochoa@saddleback.edu
Office: Fine Arts 118

Lucas Ochoa
Phone: 949-582-4778
Email: lochoa@saddleback.edu
Office: Fine Arts 119

Shawn O’Rourke
Phone: 949-582-4265
Email: sorourke@saddleback.edu
Office: LRC 161

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Emphasizes preparation and presentation of materials for college-sponsored speech and forensic activities, tournaments and festivals, high-school assemblies, and civic organizations. Events include debate, public speaking, and oral interpretation of literature. Participation is required for credit. Offered as open-entry/open-exit.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Competing students enrolled in forensics will exhibit the ability to identify one of the primary genres of competitive individual events, Oral Interpretation of Literature.

Competing students enrolled in forensics will exhibit the ability to identify one of the primary genres of competitive individual events, Platform Speaking.

Competing students enrolled in forensics will exhibit the ability to identify one of the primary genres of competitive individual events, Limited Preparation.

Competing students enrolled in forensics will exhibit the ability to identify Parliamentary Debate.

Students enrolled in Forensics will gain practical experience in the process and methods of competitive public speaking.

Enrolled intramural students will be able to display their ability to perform a platform speech for a live audience.

COURSE MATERIALS:

ASG Sticker Membership Dues: The Associated Student Government will not allow you to compete if you do not pay your ASG dues. Before your first tournament you will need to provide proof to us that you have paid your dues.

Speech & Debate Information Packet: The Forensics Information Packet, which is available on the Speech Team webpage (http://www.saddleback.edu/fa/forensics-team) provides a description of the forensics team and the different types of speeches available to students desiring to compete.

Tournament Etiquette Packet: The Tournament Packet, which is also available on the Speech Team webpage (http://www.saddleback.edu/fa/forensics-team) provides an overview of how to prepare for and how to compete at a tournament.
DROPPING THE CLASS: It is the student’s responsibility to officially withdraw (drop) from the class. Students who no longer attend class but do not withdraw will receive a failing grade (“F”) at the end of the semester, Saddleback College policy.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: Students requiring accommodations for a disability that may affect class performance are requested to schedule an appointment during the first week of the semester with a staff member in Special Services so that accommodation and any academic adjustments can be authorized. Special Services is located in the Student Services Center, SSC 113, phone: 582-4885.

MAKE-UPS/FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS: The scheduling of our course assignments is dependent on a tournament calendar which is organized by regional and national governance groups and college funding. If you are unable to attend a tournament/function that you have committed to, you are responsible for reimbursing the college the funds (airfare, tournament entry, hotel, rental, etc.) expended for your participation and identifying a make-up alternative. Make-ups will only be granted to those individuals who can provide proof of the following: a physician’s verified medical excuse or a funeral program. Also, students who choose to “NO SHOW” a round (meaning skip a tournament round) are responsible for the fees incurred at the tournament.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Cheating and plagiarism are serious violations of the student conduct code. Cheating or plagiarizing will result in a zero on the assignment or test and may result in suspension, failure in the course, and/or other disciplinary action taken by the College. All incidents of cheating and plagiarism will be reported to the Office of Student Affairs.

FORENSICS EMAILS: Important announcements (tournament entry, tournament schedule, etc.) are sent to students via email. You are responsible for keeping track of that information. If you are not receiving the emails, it is your responsibility to contact Heidi Ochoa to notify her, however, do not wait until the day before a tournament to request information about a tournament that you know you are attending.

Fundraising: It is EXTREMELY important that the team raise extra funds. Your coaches are doing a lot of things to raise money and we ask that you contribute too. Fundraising also looks excellent on your resume =)!!! Selling raffle tickets to friends and family members and eliciting prize donations is a valuable part of our team culture. Please participate to maximize opportunities for students competing for our team. The team also welcomes tax-deductible donations that can be used for student competitions or scholarships.

GPA: The Saddleback Forensics Team can offer limited tournament opportunities to individuals holding a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or lower (Saddleback/IVC Transcripts only). Each student is required to submit a copy of their unofficial transcripts to the coaching staff before they are entered into a tournament. Students with a GPA lower than 2.0 will need to set up an appointment with one of the Co-directors to discuss competitive options.

Team Attitude Requirements:

As representatives of Saddleback College it is imperative that you have a professional attitude during coaching sessions, when interacting with teammates, at tournaments, or team activities. If your coaches observe behavior that they believe to be illegal, disrespectful, inconsistent, inattentive, uncommitted or any other behavior that can be harmful to the reputation of the college and the productivity of the team, YOU WILL NOT BE ASKED TO PARTICIPATE AT TEAM EVENTS AND YOU WILL RECEIVE A LOWER GRADE IN THE COURSE. You will also not be asked to compete at the State or National Tournament. This is a TEAM there is no I in TEAM—so we will always engage in behaviors that are best for the health/well-being of the team!

The following are examples of statements/behaviors that will put you at risk of receiving a lower grade and losing your chances to go to tournaments:

A. “I’ve had my speech for over 3 weeks and I’m not memorized”
B. “I forgot about the tournament dates and I can’t go this weekend”
C. “I missed my 2nd round”
D. “I was drinking in the hotel or at the tournament”
E. “I was doing illegal drugs in the hotel or at the tournament”
F. “I was causing dissention among my peers”
G. “I was being defiant with my coach”
H. “I did not meet the specific expectations of the coaches”
I. “I’ve been chosen with the honor of making the State and or National team but, I just can’t make it...sorry!”
J. “I told my coach that my speech was memorized, but it really wasn’t....hehehehehehe”
K. “I told my biology teacher to buzz off...What? My friends thought it was funny!”
L. I’m too cool to drive to team events with the team.
M. Disregarding or failing to pay attention to coaches feedback/instructions
N. Missing deadlines
O. Failing to show up at a tournament on-time
P. Leaving tournaments early
Q. Disrespecting your peers or your coaches
R. Lacking supportive behavior
S. Lacking speech preparation
T. Acting unprofessionally
U. Failing to engage in proper tournament etiquette (Refer to tournament packet online for proper tournament etiquette guidelines. Etiquette guidelines will also be discussed in class.)
V. Engaging in defensive behavior toward coaches or students

Also, be sensitive to the fact that all of us are coming together as a team with different strengths and weaknesses and the only way for us to create a supportive climate for each other is to respect each other’s ideas and contributions to the team. It is very hurtful to talk behind others back and I assure you that none of the bad things that people say about coaches or students are kept secret. Know that if you are insensitive to people opinions on the team, there will be repercussions. So—when in doubt—just be friendly and supportive. We all have busy lives, we all work hard, and we all deserve a fun environment!!!

Additionally, WE WILL NOT TOLERATE THE CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS AT ANY FORENSICS ACTIVITY. The South Orange County Community College District and California State Law prohibit the unlawful possession, use, distribution, manufacture or dispensing of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on college property or as part of any college activity. [California Education Code, section 76033.

And finally, coaching sessions are for coaching—nothing more. Do not come to coaching session with intentions of chatting with your coaches about anything but the improvement of your pieces. We will have plenty of time to tell each other about ourselves during van rides, flights, and tournaments. So—we must use coaching sessions productively. After all, the reason for our relationship is to strengthen your speaking skills =).

Grading
This is a class so; you are required to meet the expectations for the desired grade. You don’t have to win to earn an “A” in this course, but you do need to complete all the minimum criteria required that corresponds with the number of units that you are enrolled in. If you do not meet the minimum criteria outlined below, you will earn a B, C, D, or F.
If you are enrolled for **1 unit** and you intend to **travel with the team to off-campus tournaments** you are responsible for all of the following:

In-class Participation (10 points): All important announcements are made during our weekly meetings on Tuesdays. Therefore, it is important that you attend. If you miss, you will want to meet with your coaches to learn what was discussed. The development of speeches is largely influenced by students’ ability to offer and adapt to criticism/feedback—none of which can be accomplished if not present in class. Also, whether you are in-class, at a tournament, or a speech event, you must demonstrate Saddleback approved etiquette. Look to Tournament Etiquette Packet referenced in the Materials section and Team Attitude page above.

Attend & participate at 1 complete tournament (75 points). To receive tournament credit students must complete the entire tournament experience.

Attending & participating all of the Team Service Events (10 points). The team service events include the on campus public performance and the intramural/cool-off tournament. The Tournament Schedule below lists the dates of these events.

Individual Appointments with at least 1 coach (5 points): If Saddleback College is paying for you to compete, it is important for the coaches to check your progress. Saddleback College does not wish to enter your speech in a tournament if it isn’t prepared. If you are enrolled for 1 unit, you must meet with a coach at least 3 times before the tournament you wish to attend. You will not be entered at a tournament if you are unable to attend your appointments.

If you are enrolled for **1 unit** and you are **only competing at on-campus tournaments** refer to the 2013 SP 106 Intramural Syllabus available on the Forensics Website.

If you are enrolled for **2 units** you are responsible for all of the following:

In-class Participation (10 points): All important announcements are made during our weekly meetings on Tuesdays. Therefore, it is important that you attend. If you miss, you will want to meet with your coaches to learn what was discussed. The development of speeches is largely influenced by students’ ability to offer and adapt to criticism/feedback—none of which can be accomplished if not present in class. Also, whether you are in-class, at a tournament, or a speech event, you must demonstrate Saddleback approved etiquette. Look to Tournament Etiquette Packet referenced in the Materials section and Team Attitude page above.

Attend & participate at 2 complete tournaments in 2 different Types of Speeches **OR** attend & participate at 1 complete tournament in 1 type of Speech & write a 10 page paper (70 points—35 points for each assignment). To receive tournament credit students must complete the entire tournament experience. Students, who opt to write a final paper in lieu of the competing at 1 tournament, will need to meet with a coach at least 2 weeks before the deadline. The deadline for the paper is Tuesday December 3rd. It is important to note that students cannot write 2 final papers. Students must participate in at least 1 competitive tournament.

Attending & participating all of the Team Service Events (10 points). The team service events include the on campus public performance and the intramural/cool-off tournament. The Tournament Schedule below lists the dates of these events.

Individual Appointments with at least 1 coach (10 points): If Saddleback College is paying for you to compete, it is important for the coaches to check your progress. Saddleback College does not wish to enter your speech in a tournament if it isn’t prepared. If you are enrolled for 1 unit, you must meet with a coach at least 3 times before the tournament you wish to attend. You will not be entered at a tournament if you are unable to attend your appointments.
If you are enrolled for **3 units** you are responsible for all of the following:

In-class Participation (10 points): All important announcements are made during our weekly meetings on Tuesdays. Therefore, it is important that you attend. If you miss, you will want to meet with your coaches to learn what was discussed. The development of speeches is largely influenced by students' ability to offer and adapt to criticism/feedback—none of which can be accomplished if not present in class. Also, whether you are in-class, at a tournament, or a speech event, you must demonstrate Saddleback approved etiquette. Look to Tournament Etiquette Packet referenced in the Materials section and Team Attitude page above.

Attend & participate at 3 complete tournaments in 3 different Types of Speeches OR attend & participate at 2 complete tournaments in 2 types of speeches & write a 10 page paper (60 points—20 points for each assignment). To receive tournament credit students must complete the entire tournament experience. Students who opt to write a final paper in lieu of competing at 1 tournament, will need to meet with a coach at least 2 weeks before the deadline. The deadline for the paper is Tuesday December 3rd. It is important to note that students cannot write 2 final papers. Students must participate in at least 2 competitive tournaments.

Attending & participating all of the Team Service Events (15 points). The team service events include the on campus public performance and the intramural/cool-off tournament. The Tournament Schedule below lists the dates of these events.

Individual Appointments with at least 1 coach (15 points): If Saddleback College is paying for you to compete, it is important for the coaches to check your progress. Saddleback College does not wish to enter your speech in a tournament if it isn’t prepared. If you are enrolled for 1 unit, you must meet with a coach at least 3 times before the tournament you wish to attend. You will not be entered at a tournament if you are unable to attend your appointments.

**Nationals Track:** In Spring of 2014 the Saddleback Speech & Debate Team will select the most committed team members to represent Saddleback College at the PHI RHO PI National Tournament. If you are interested, you will need to be on “A” track status in your SP 106 course. You will also want to plan to compete in 4 events at nationals, which means that you will want to prepare 2-3 events in Fall Semester (preferably 3 since we want to spend Spring Semester working on delivery choices rather than script choices). Any poor choice over the course of the semester, including: drinking or doing drugs at a tournament, directing rude comments toward your coaches, peers, judges, or competitors, missing tournaments, appointments, or team events, engaging in unethical/inappropriate behavior, or failing to meet fundraising requirements will result in disqualification from the Nationals Track Team. **National Track Students MUST be enrolled in at least 9 Saddleback College units during the Spring Semester.**

**Mandatory Documents:** EVERYONE needs to present 2 documents within the first week after enrolling for this course:

A. Your transcript that proves that you have at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA.
B. Your sticker or receipt for your ASG card.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Invited Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>PSCFA Seminar</td>
<td>Cerritos College</td>
<td>Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 27-28</td>
<td>PSCFA Warm UP</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Debaters Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 6</td>
<td>Double Up APU</td>
<td>Azusa Pacific University</td>
<td>Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 26-27</td>
<td>Lancer</td>
<td>Pasadena City College</td>
<td>Debaters &amp; I.E.ers (Invite Only)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 8</td>
<td>Palomar</td>
<td>Palomar College</td>
<td>Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>10-Page Papers DUE</td>
<td></td>
<td>*Only applies to 2 units/3 units students, who can’t complete full tournament requirement. Look to Unit descriptions above.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 3</td>
<td>Public Performance</td>
<td>McKinney Theatre</td>
<td>*Mandatory Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 5-7</td>
<td>PSCFA Fall Champs</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Debaters (Friday/Saturday) I.E.ers (Sunday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 11-12</td>
<td>Hell Froze Over</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>Invited I.E.ers Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 6</td>
<td>Angels Scholarship Apps. Due</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>Southwestern Inv’l</td>
<td>Southwestern College</td>
<td>I.Eers Only</td>
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<td>Feb. 14-16</td>
<td>Tabor-Venitsky/L/D Champs</td>
<td>Cerritos College</td>
<td>Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
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<td>Feb. 22-24</td>
<td>PSCFA Spring Champs</td>
<td>Moorpark College</td>
<td>Debate (Fri &amp; Sa) I.E.ers (Sunday)</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>Public Performance</td>
<td>McKinney Theatre</td>
<td>*Mandatory Attendance</td>
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<td>March 10-16</td>
<td>CCCFA State</td>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>Top 20 Students Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 5-13</td>
<td>Phi Rho Pi</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>Top 14 Students Debaters &amp; I.E.ers</td>
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<td>Apr. TBA</td>
<td>Interstate Oratory</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Top Speaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 26-27</td>
<td>PSCFA Cool-Off</td>
<td>Saddleback</td>
<td>*Mandatory Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3-4</td>
<td>ARTA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Readers Theatre Students Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 12</td>
<td>Public Performance</td>
<td>Saddleback</td>
<td>*Mandatory Attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 3-4</td>
<td>ARTA</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Readers Theatre Students Only</td>
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